

Maurice Hinchey NEWS

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HINCHEY LAUDS LOCAL EFFORTS TO IMPROVE HOUSING, PLEDGES FEDERAL SUPPORT

KINGSTON - U.S. Representative Maurice Hinchey (NY-26) today commended Ulster and County and the City of Kingston for taking steps to address housing needs, including forming housing task forces. Hinchey, who has succeeded in bringing more than \$15 million in federal housing assistance to the county since 1995, pledged his continued support.

"Both the county and the city are making smart moves by addressing their current and future housing needs now," said Hinchey. "We need to have a concerted effort from all levels of government on this issue."

Hinchey made his remarks at a public forum he hosted along with Senator Charles Schumer to discuss Ulster County's housing needs from a federal perspective. The forum featured presentations from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Federal Home Loan Bank, Fannie Mae and USDA's Rural Housing Service. Each presented a comprehensive analysis of federal resources and explained the most effective ways of leveraging these resources locally. The purpose of the forum was to seek ways to more fully realize the potential of these federal resources.

County and municipal leaders have identified housing as the most significant problem facing Ulster County in the coming years. Homelessness is on the rise, low-income and senior rental housing is scarce, the affordable housing stock is physically deteriorating and homeownership is an increasingly unattainable goal for many county residents.